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Matters relating to the least developed countries

Synthesis report on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

Note by the secretariat*

Summary

This document has been prepared as a contribution to discussions on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG). It draws on views submitted by Parties and the outcomes of the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG, which took place from 9 to 11 March 2015, as presented in the report on the meeting. The synthesis report has also benefited from inputs provided by the LEG through the reports on its meetings, in particular the 26th and 27th meetings, and other relevant documents. Based on all the above-mentioned inputs, this document synthesizes possible elements for a future mandate of the LEG, including broadening the areas of support provided by the LEG and revising the composition and the length of the mandate of the group to address emerging needs for support.

* This document was submitted after the due date in order to take into account relevant inputs.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. At its sixteenth session, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided to review, at COP 21, the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) and to adopt a decision thereon.[1] It decided on the following actions to initiate the review:

(a) To request the LEG to convene a meeting, including Parties, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and its agencies, and other relevant organizations, with the assistance of the secretariat, to take stock of its work, before June 2015;

(b) To request the secretariat to prepare a report on the stocktaking meeting for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its forty-second session, as input to the review;

(c) To invite Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 1 February 2015, their views on the work of the LEG, for compilation by the secretariat into a miscellaneous document for consideration at SBI 42;

(d) To request the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG, based on the submissions from Parties, reports of the LEG, the report on the stocktaking meeting and other relevant information, for consideration at SBI 42.

B. Scope of the report

2. This report synthesizes the following information: the submissions from Parties referred to in paragraph 1(c) above,[2] containing the views of one Party[3] and two groups of Parties;[4] the inputs provided by the LEG at its 27th meeting[5] and previous meetings;[6] and the report on the stocktaking meeting referred to in paragraph 1(b) above, which took place from 9 to 11 March 2015 in Bangkok,[7] Thailand. The synthesis report highlights the experiences of Parties with regard to the support provided by the LEG for the preparation and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), the other elements of the work programme of the least developed countries (LDCs) and the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs). It also highlights the possible roles that the LEG could play under a future mandate.

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[1] Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 9.

[2] Contained in document FCCC/SBI/2015/MISC.2.

[3] Nepal.

[4] The submissions from the two group of Parties are as follows: Latvia and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its 28 member States, with the submission being supported by a further 5 Parties; and Angola on behalf of the least developed countries, representing the views of 48 Parties.

[5] FCCC/SBI/2015/7.

[6] Available at <unfccc.int/6099>.

[7] FCCC/SBI/2015/8.

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

3. The SBI may wish to consider the information contained in this document when making recommendations to the COP on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG.

II. Background

4. Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Convention acknowledges the specific needs and special situations of LDCs. The implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention was initiated at COP 3.[8] Following this, and the progress made at subsequent sessions, a package of decisions was adopted at COP 7 to support the LDCs,[9] including the establishment of the LDC work programme (the NAPAs and the other five elements of the programme), the establishment of the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the establishment and mandate of the LEG.

5. The mandate of the LEG was extended at COP 16 for a period of five years (2011–2015).[10] In total, the LEG has served five mandated terms (2002–2003; 2004–2005; 2006–2007; 2008–2010; and 2011–2015). More information about each of these terms can be found in reports to the SBI on the LEG meetings covering these periods.[11]

6. The current mandates of the LEG (based on decisions 29/CP.7, 4/CP.11, 8/CP.13, 5/CP.14, 6/CP.16, 5/CP.17, 12/CP.18 and 3/CP.20) are presented in annex I, and the key milestones in the work of the LEG and related support to the LDCs are highlighted in annex II.

7. In the current mandate of the LEG, its membership has been expanded from 12 to 13 members,[12] comprising 5 experts from African LDC Parties, 2 from Asian LDC Parties, 2 from small island developing States that are LDC Parties, 3 from Parties included in Annex II to the Convention, and 1 additional expert from an LDC Party.

8. The LEG meets twice a year to take stock of progress made in implementing its work programme. At its first meeting of the year, the LEG prepares a two-year rolling work programme, and also elects a Chair and a Vice-Chair, and three Rapporteurs (one anglophone, one francophone and one lusophone). The secretariat prepares a report on each LEG meeting to be presented to the SBI at the following session. In addition, the LEG Chair provides an oral report to the SBI at the opening plenary of each SBI session.

9. The support provided by the LEG includes the following:

(a) Developing guidelines and technical papers such as a step-by-step guide for implementing NAPAs[13] and the technical guidelines for the NAP process,[14] available in multiple languages;[15]

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[8] Decision 3/CP.3, paragraph 1.

[9] Decisions 5/CP.7, 7/CP.7, 28/CP.7 and 29/CP.7.

[10] Decision 6/CP.16.

[11] The reports are available at <unfccc.int/7581>.

[12] Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 4.

[13] <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?such=j&symbol=FCCC/GEN/250%20E#beg>.

[14] *National Adaptation Plans: Technical Guidelines for the National Adaptation Plan Process.* Available at <http://unfccc.int/7279>.

[15] Both publications are available in English, French and Portuguese. The technical guidelines for the NAP process are also available in Spanish.

(b) Establishing thematic working groups and advisory groups composed of LEG members and other relevant stakeholders, including members of other bodies under the Convention, in particular the Adaptation Committee, relevant organizations and representatives of civil society. For example, a NAP technical working group is working on the development of a sample NAP process and on guidance to organizations which are developing supplements to the NAP technical guidelines. Similarly, an advisory group composed of LEG members, a member of the Adaptation Committee and a representative of the LDC group is working on the revision of the methodologies for collecting best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation, while another advisory group is guiding the development of NAP Central;

(c) Organizing regional training workshops to build national capacity on the objectives, characteristics and content of NAPAs and the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and how the NAPA and NAP guidelines can be used for the processes;[16]

(d) Organizing meetings in LDCs to facilitate direct engagement with and more tailored support to country teams working on NAPAs and the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(e) Providing databases on adaptation, such as the NAPA priorities database, which presents the list of ranked priority adaptation activities and projects, and the LDCF/NAPA projects database, which provides updated information on the status of implementation of NAPA projects under the LDCF;[17]

(f) Compiling case studies on adaptation, such as the country profiles on best practices and lessons learned;[18]

(g) Developing NAP Central, a universally accessible, web-based central repository and hub for information pertinent to the process to formulate and implement NAPs. It is a platform that provides access to data, information and knowledge on adaptation to all relevant stakeholders that are developing adaptation plans;[19]

(h) Publishing outreach products[20] that provide information on adaptation in LDCs, such as *Best Practices and Lessons Learned in Addressing Adaptation in the Least Developed Countries* (volumes 1 and 2), available in English, French and Portuguese;

(i) Regularly organizing side events on the margins of the intergovernmental process as part of the outreach activities of the LEG;

(j) Engaging with other United Nations processes, including through collaboration with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and involvement in the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA);[21]

(k) Developing lists of frequently asked questions about LDCs, the LEG, NAPAs and the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(l) Collaborating with other bodies under the Convention such as the Adaptation Committee and the Technology Executive Committee;

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[16] <http:/unfccc.int/ 6101>.

[17] See <http://unfccc.int/ 6996>.

[18] See <http://unfccc.int/ 6491>.

[19] See < http://unfccc.int/nap>.

[20] See <http://unfccc.int/ /6110>.

[21] The IPoA charts out the international community's vision and strategy for the sustainable development of LDCs for the decade 2011–2020.
See <http://unohrlls.org/about-ldcs/istanbul-programme-of-action>.

(m) Collaborating with the GEF and its agencies and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) secretariat, including by inviting them to contribute to workshops and meetings;

(n) Collaborating with relevant organizations on various themes – for example, on consideration of gender issues;

(o) Promoting South–South cooperation by offering forums for LDCs and developing countries that are not LDCs, including virtual ones for LDCs from different regions, to enable countries to meet, learn from one another and share their experiences, best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation.

III. Synthesis of views of Parties on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

10. The information presented below comes from submissions made by Parties to the secretariat containing their views on the work of, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG.

A. Views on the progress made by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

11. All Parties commended the LEG for the work it had done since its establishment, including during its current mandate. Parties considered the LEG to be instrumental in supporting LDCs in addressing adaptation to climate change and were of the view that the LEG had fulfilled its mandate. Some Parties also felt that the LEG had exceeded expectations by allowing countries to achieve significant progress in their adaptation work. They specifically mentioned the good work that the LEG had done in supporting LDCs for the preparation and implementation of NAPAs and for the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

12. Most Parties highlighted some of the products and activities of the LEG that they had found particularly effective to support LDCs, including:

(a) The technical guidelines for the NAP process;

(b) Regional training workshops on NAPAs and NAPs;

(c) The LEG active collaboration with bodies under the Convention and other relevant organizations, including regional centres and networks;

(d) The provision of platforms for sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned and for fostering South–South cooperation. As an example, they referred to the series of publications on the collection and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in LDCs, the NAP Expos and NAP Central;

(e) The possibility for developing countries that are not LDCs to use some of the products of the LEG, in particular the technical guidelines for the NAP process.

13. In highlighting the support that they had received from the LEG, a group of Parties also noted how NAPAs had played an important role in informing the process to formulate and implement NAPs. They mentioned that NAPAs had contributed to raising the awareness of high-level officials, and their implementation had generated valuable experiences and lessons learned (LDCs).

B. Views on the need for continuation and terms of reference of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

14. In sharing their views on the need for continuation of the LEG, several Parties took the opportunity to share their views on the membership of the LEG and the modalities it could employ to conduct its work under a future mandate.

15. Parties indicated that they were in full support of the continuation of the LEG and would therefore expect the renewal of its mandate at COP 21 (December 2015).

16. Some Parties would also favour an extension of the mandate to go beyond 2020, in alignment with the time when the GCF would be expected to reach USD 100 billion per year. These Parties stated that they would like the mandate of the LEG to be for more than five years but did not provide a specific time frame. A group of Parties proposed to discuss the possibility of a shorter mandate period with a similar review as envisaged for this year to ensure that the role of the LEG meets the needs of the new agreement.

17. Parties that voiced their support for continuation of the mandate of the LEG also proposed the following:

(a) A review and possible extension of the membership of the LEG;

(b) The exploration of renewed and strengthened forms of collaboration between the LEG and relevant organizations, including through the inclusion of representatives of some selected organizations in the LEG.

18. A group of Parties called for caution in order not to overburden the limited capacity of the LEG with additional tasks while at the same time seeing a need for enhanced coordination and cooperation both within the Convention – especially between the LEG, the Adaptation Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network - and organizations working on adaptation issues outside the Convention. Some Parties believed that exploring avenues for the enhancement of the composition of the LEG would be useful to allow the expert group to be fully capacitated to respond to the ever-evolving adaptation landscape under the Convention and to continue to adequately support the LDCs.

19. One Party mentioned that the LEG, in its future term, should continue to employ the modalities that it currently uses. The same Party suggested that the LEG could also seek to establish formal partnerships with other bodies and programmes under the Convention and with other relevant organizations outside the Convention, including, but not limited to, regional centres and networks.

20. In discussing the terms of reference of the LEG, a group of Parties identified the following issues for further discussions:

(a) Any duplication of work between the LEG and the Adaptation Committee;

(b) Enhanced cooperation and coordination between the LEG and other entities under the Convention;

(c) The needs of the LDCs that should be addressed specifically by the LEG;

(d) The appropriate time frame for a mandate that ensures that the role of the LEG meets the needs of the new agreement.

IV. Elements for a future mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

21. On the basis of the views of Parties in their submissions, the outcome of the stocktaking meeting and information contained in past reports of the LEG and summarized in chapter II above, the following new and additional elements could be part of a future mandate of the LEG:

(a) Provision of technical guidance and advice on the revision of the LDC work programme;

(b) Provision of technical guidance and advice on the full implementation of the LDC work programme;

(c) Provision of technical guidance and support for the identification of capacity gaps and needs for LDCs to effectively implement their NAPAs and the other elements of the LDC work programme;

(d) Provision of technical guidance and support for the identification of capacity gaps and needs for LDCs to effectively undertake the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(e) Provision of capacity-building for national institutions and focal points to effectively spearhead the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(f) Provision of capacity-building for accessing funding for adaptation, including through the GCF, the GEF, the Adaptation Fund and other relevant sources of funding;

(g) Collaboration with the following entities to support the work of the LEG:

(i) Bodies under the Convention;

(ii) Multilateral financial institutions (e.g. GCF, GEF);

(iii) Other relevant multilateral and bilateral organizations;

(iv) Regional centres and networks;

(v) Scientific organizations and the academic community;

(vi) Civil society;

(h) Provision of technical support and advice for the promotion of South–South cooperation;

(i) Promotion of regional approaches, partnerships and synergy as a contribution to achieving national goals for the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(j) Provision of technical advice and support to Parties and information on existing activities and programmes, including bilateral, regional and multilateral sources of financial and technical assistance, to facilitate and support work on the process to formulate and implement NAPs, NAPAs and the LDC work programme;

(k) Undertaking the monitoring and evaluation of support provided to LDCs through, inter alia, the collection of relevant data and information from LDCs;

(l) Provision of technical guidance and support for addressing the recommendations contained in the technology needs assessment reports;

(m) Development of standard methodologies on various aspects related to reducing vulnerability to climate change in LDCs;

(n) Provision of technical support and advice for the scaling up of considerations of gender and gender approaches and of vulnerable groups in adaptation planning and implementation as a way to enhance participation and effectiveness of adaptation efforts;

(o) Provision of technical support and advice for LDCs to access adaptation technologies;

(p) Provision of technical support and advice for the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation into national development planning and implementation in order to achieve sustainable results;

(q) Provision of technical advice and support to Parties, upon request, to respond to specific needs they may have, including for strengthening linkages between science and policy;

(r) Provision of support and guidance to the documentation and communication of information on experiences, best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation and other climate-related efforts;

(s) Provision of technical support and advice for the consideration of transformational change in a changing climate in LDCs;

(t) Provision of technical support and advice to LDCs for the development and submission of intended nationally determined contributions;

(u) Provision of technical support and advice for the alignment of adaptation efforts with processes outside the Convention, including the sustainable development goals and the IPoA, through enhanced collaboration with the United Nations Secretariat.

Annex I

Current mandates of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

The current mandates of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group are as follows:

1. To provide technical guidance and advice on the preparation and on the implementation strategy of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), including the identification of possible sources of data and their subsequent application and interpretation, upon request by the least developed country (LDC) Parties (decision 29/CP.7)

2. To advise on capacity-building needs for the preparation and implementation of NAPAs and to provide recommendations, as appropriate (decision 29/CP.7)

3. To develop a work programme that includes implementation of NAPAs (decision 4/CP.11)

4. To serve in an advisory capacity to the LDCs (decision 8/CP.13)

5. To assist, as appropriate, the remaining LDC Parties that have not submitted their NAPAs in completing and submitting their NAPAs as soon as possible (request to the Global Environment Facility in collaboration with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)) (decision 5/CP.14)

6. To provide technical guidance and advice on the revision and update of NAPAs to further improve their quality, to facilitate the integration of adaptation actions of LDCs into development planning and to reflect increased adaptation knowledge and changed priorities in the countries, upon request by LDCs (decision 6/CP.16)

7. To provide technical guidance and advice on the identification of medium- and long-term adaptation needs, their integration into development planning and the implementation of identified adaptation activities (decision 6/CP.16)

8. To provide technical guidance and advice on strengthening gender-related considerations and considerations regarding vulnerable communities within LDC Parties (decision 6/CP.16)

9. To provide technical guidance and advice on the implementation of the elements of the LDC work programme other than the preparation and implementation of NAPAs that are relevant to the expertise of the LEG (decision 6/CP.16)

10. To provide technical guidance and support to the national adaptation plan (NAP) process, as appropriate (decision 5/CP.17)

11. To prioritize support for the formulation and implementation of NAPs in carrying out the LEG mandate to support the identification and implementation of medium- and long-term adaptation in the least developed countries (decision 5/CP.17)

12. To prepare technical guidelines for the NAP process, based on the initial guidelines included in the annex to decision 5/CP.17 (decision 5/CP.17)

13. To identify support needs for the process of formulation and implementation of NAPs (decision 5/CP.17)

14. To invite the Adaptation Committee and other relevant bodies under the Convention to contribute to the work of the LEG in support of the NAP process, and to report, as appropriate (decision 5/CP.17)

15. The LEG, the Adaptation Committee and other relevant bodies under the Convention to include information in their reports on how they have responded to the requests made in decision 5/CP.7 and on their activities relevant to the NAP process, as per their respective mandates, and to make recommendations accordingly (decision 5/CP.17)

16. Parties and relevant organizations to continue to assist the LDC Parties, drawing upon the work of, and where appropriate in consultation with, the LEG, in building national institutional arrangements and capacities, and to support scientific and technical capacity needs, as identified by the LDC Parties, for undertaking the NAP process (decision 12/CP.18)

17. To consider, with the Adaptation Committee and in collaboration with the Green Climate Fund, how to best support developing country Parties in accessing funding from the Green Climate Fund for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and to report thereon to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its forty-second session (decision 3/CP.20)

Annex II

Key milestones in the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and related support to the least developed countries

Year	*Milestones*
2001	**Preceding the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties (COP):**
	• Expert workshops to design the national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs) and prepare draft guidelines for NAPA preparation in Kampala, Uganda, in April and in Male, Maldives, in September
	COP 7 – Package of decisions to support the least developed countries (LDCs):
	• Special reference to LDCs in decision 2/CP.7, "Capacity-building in developing countries (non-Annex I Parties)"
	• Definition of the LDC work programme in decision 5/CP.7, "Implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention (decision 3/CP.3 and Article 2, paragraph 3, and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol)"
	• Establishment of the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) by decision 7/CP.7, "Funding under the Convention"
	• Decision 27/CP.7, "Guidance to an entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism of the Convention, for the operation of the least developed countries fund"
	• Decision 28/CP.7, "Guidelines for the preparation of national adaptation programmes of action"
	• Decision 29/CP.7, "Establishment of a least developed countries expert group"
2002	**Global Environment Facility (GEF):**
	• Operational guidelines for funding for the preparation of NAPAs
	Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG):
	• Annotated guidelines for the preparation of NAPAs[a]
	• Global launch and capacity-building workshop for the preparation of NAPAs in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in September
	Decision 8/CP.8, "Guidance to an entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism of the Convention, for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund":
	• The GEF to support, where sufficient voluntary funding has not be provided from bilateral sources, the organization, under the guidance of the LEG, of four regional workshops in 2003

Year	*Milestones*
2003	**LEG:**
	• Four regional training workshops on NAPA preparation, in collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), held, respectively, in Apia, Samoa, for Pacific LDCs in March; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, for anglophone African LDCs in June; Thimphu, Bhutan, for Asian LDCs in September; and Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, for francophone LDCs in October
	Decision 6/CP.9, "Further guidance for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund":
	• The GEF to support the implementation of NAPAs as soon as possible after their completion
	Decision 7/CP.9, "Extension of the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group"
2004	**Decision 4/CP.10, "Work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group":**
	• The LEG to prepare possible elements on the role of the group in support of the implementation of NAPAs and to include in its next report to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), in consultation with LDC Parties, information on potential technical and financial difficulties that LDC Parties may have in the implementation of NAPAs
	LEG:
	• Publication presenting a selection of examples and exercises drawn from the regional training workshops on NAPAs by UNITAR
	• Publication of the NAPA Primer, which provides an introduction to NAPAs
2005	**LEG:**
	• SBI technical paper on synthesis of available information for the preparation of NAPAs[b]
	• SBI technical paper on synergy among multilateral environmental agreements in the context of NAPAs[c]
	• SBI technical paper on regional synergy in the context of NAPAs[d]
	• SBI technical paper on elements for implementation strategies for NAPAs[e]
	Decision 3/CP.11, "Further guidance for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund":
	• The full cost of funding is to be provided by the LDCF for activities to meet the additional costs to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change
	• In supporting NAPA implementation, the GEF is to develop a

Year	*Milestones*
	co-financing scale and develop flexible modalities that ensure balanced access to resources
	Decision 4/CP.11, "Extension of the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group":
2006	**GEF:**
	• Programming paper for funding the implementation of NAPAs under the LDCF[f]
	LEG:
	• Creation of an online local coping database
2007	**LEG:**
	• Stocktaking meeting on NAPAs organized in Bangkok
	Decision 8/CP.13, "Extension of the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group"
2008	**Decision 5/CP.14, "Further guidance for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund":**
	• Assessment of the LDCF and request for the GEF to support the implementation of the elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs
2009	**LEG:**
	• Publication of a step-by-step guide for implementing NAPAs[g]
	• Technical paper on support needed to fully implement NAPAs[h]
	• Conduct of the first of five regional training workshops on implementing NAPAs, targeting anglophone African LDCs. The workshop took place in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, in October
	• Paper on the overview of NAPA preparation, design of implementation strategies and submission of revised project lists and profiles[i]
	• Publication on the LDCs under the Convention[j]
	• Information paper on support needed to fully implement NAPAs[k]
2010	**LEG:**
	• The remaining four regional training workshops on implementing NAPAs, for, respectively, francophone LDCs in Bamako, Mali, in February; Asian LDCs in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, in August; lusophone LDCs in Sao Tome and Principe in September; and Pacific LDCs in Apia in November

Year	*Milestones*
	GEF:
	• Programming paper on accessing resources under the LDCF with a simplified project cycle[f]
	Decision 1/CP.16, "The Cancun Agreements: Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention":
	• Establishment under the Cancun Adaptation Framework of a process to enable LDC Parties, building upon their experience with the NAPAs, to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) and an invitation to other developing Parties to employ the modalities formulated to support those plans
	Decision 5/CP.16, "Further guidance for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund":
	• The SBI to review the experiences gained from the implementation of the LDC work programme, including those in accessing funds from the LDCF
	• Reiterated request for the GEF to support the implementation of the other elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs
	Decision 6/CP.16, "Extension of the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group":
	• Renewal and expansion of the mandate of the LEG
2011	**LEG:**
	• LEG technical paper on the identification and implementation of medium- and long-term adaptation activities in LDCs"
	• Expert meeting on NAPs in September in Lao People's Democratic Republic
	• Best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in LDCs through the NAPA, volume 1n(available in English, French and Portuguese)
	• Inputs to the preparation of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the LDCs, which was organized by the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
	GEF:
	• Publication on accessing resources under the LDCF"
	Decision 5/CP.17, "National adaptation plans":
	• Adoption of initial guidelines for the formulation of the NAP

Year	Milestones
	process
	• The LEG to provide technical guidance and support to the NAP process
	• The LEG to prepare technical guidelines for the NAP process, arrange a review of these technical guidelines before COP 18 and identify support for the process of formulation and implementation of the NAPs
	• The LEG to invite the Adaptation Committee and other relevant bodies under the Convention to contribute to its work in support of the NAP process. The GEF to consider how to enable activities for the preparation of the NAP process for the LDC Parties, while maintaining progress for the LDC work programme
	Decision 9/CP.17, "Least Developed Countries Fund: support for the implementation of elements of the least developed countries work programme other than national adaptation programmes of action":
	• The LEG to provide further specification on each of the elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs, in consultation with the GEF
2012	**LEG:**
	• Provision of further specification on each of the elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs
	• Training materials and conduct of one of five regional training workshops for 2012–2013 on adaptation and the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The first workshop targeted Pacific LDCs and took place in Funafuti, Tuvalu, in September/October
	• Technical guidelines for the NAP process[a] (available in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish) and by-products (CD-ROM, posters)
	• Organization of an expert meeting to review the draft NAP guidelines. The meeting took place in October in Bonn, Germany
	GEF and United Nations agencies:
	• Development of a global support programme for the NAPs to facilitate financial and technical support to LDCs. The programme is funded under the GEF/LDCF
	Decision 12/CP.18, "National adaptation plans":
	• The GEF, as the operating entity of the LDCF, to enable activities for the preparation of the NAP process by LDC Parties
	• Parties and relevant organizations to continue to assist the LDC Parties, drawing upon the work of, and where appropriate in consultation with, the LEG, in building national institutional arrangements and capacities to support scientific and technical capacity needs, as identified by the LDC Parties, for undertaking the NAP

Year	*Milestones*
	process
	• United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies to support the NAP process in LDCs, where possible, to consider establishing or enhancing support programmes for the NAP process within their mandates
	• Parties and relevant organizations to share best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation through, inter alia, the ongoing work of the LEG
2013	**LEG:**
	• Conduct of the remaining three regional training workshops for 2012–2013 for LDCs on adaptation and the process to formulate and implement NAPS for francophone LDCs in Lomé, Togo, in March; African anglophone LDCs in Kigali, Rwanda, in July/August; and Asian LDCs in Siem Reap, Cambodia, in August
	• NAP Expo: focusing on launching of the NAP process, in Bonn in June
	• Publication on the NAP process – a brief overview[a] (available in English, French and Portuguese)
	• Publication on best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in LDCs, volume 2[a](available in English, French and Portuguese)
	Adaptation Committee:
	• Establishment of a task force on NAPs and engagement of the LEG in the work of the task force
	GEF:
	• The Council of the LDCF and Special Climate Change Fund endorsed guidelines for funding the NAPs that were prepared by the GEF secretariat in response to COP guidance
	Decision 2/CP.19, "Warsaw international mechanism for loss and damage associated with climate change impacts":
	• The COP decided that, as an interim measure, the executive committee of the mechanism should consist of two representatives from each of the following bodies under the Convention, ensuring that there is a balanced representation between developed and developing country Parties: the Adaptation Committee, the LEG, the Standing Committee on Finance, the Technology Executive Committee and the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention
	Decision 17/CP.19, "Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change":
	• The relevance of the Nairobi work programme should be enhanced, on the basis of, inter alia, the development of linkages with other relevant workstreams, including the NAP process, research and systematic observation and bodies under the Convention, including the

Year	*Milestones*
	Adaptation Committee, the LEG and the Technology Mechanism
	Decision 18/CP.19, "National adaptation plans":
	• Welcoming the technical guidelines for the NAP process developed by the LEG
	• Welcoming the establishment of the NAP global support programme for the LDCs
2014	**LEG:**
	• Convening of a technical meeting on NAPs that worked on a sample NAP process. The meeting was held in Dar es Salaam in February
	• NAP Expo, focusing on catalysing actions and support for the NAP process. It took place in Bonn in August
	• Conduct of the first regional training workshop on NAPs for 2014–2015, in collaboration with the global support programmes on NAPs for LDCs and developing countries that are not LDCs. This first workshop targeted Pacific countries and was held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, in November
	GEF and United Nations agencies:
	• To date, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) have jointly held four regional workshops under the NAP global support programme to support LDCs in the preparation of their NAPs
	• To date, 27 LDCs have requested in-country targeted support from the NAP global support programme, and UNDP/UNEP have stated that all LDCs will probably be receiving this type of support by early 2015 (pending final approval of GEF funds)
	Decision 3/CP.20, "National adaptation plans":
	• The Adaptation Committee and the LEG, in collaboration with the Green Climate Fund (GCF), as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, to consider how to best support developing country Parties in accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and to report thereon to SBI 42
	Decision 10/CP.20, "Further guidance to the Least Developed Countries Fund":
	• Further guidance to the LDCF for supporting the implementation of the elements of the LDC work programme other than NAPAs
2015	**LEG:**
	• Second regional training workshop on NAPs for 2014–2015, targeting Eastern and Southern African countries, held in Livingstone, Zambia, in February
	• Stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG held in Bangkok

Year	Milestones

	in March
	• NAP Expo, focusing on realizing the NAP process. It took place in Bonn in April
	• The Adaptation Committee, in collaboration with the LEG, conducted a workshop on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The workshop took place in Bonn in April and was a response to a mandate received at SBI 40
	• Interaction with, inter alia, the GCF during the 27th meeting of the LEG and the NAP Expo
	• Upcoming activities in 2015:
	  • Conduct of the remaining three regional training workshops on NAPs
	  • Release of several publications to support the NAPA, the LDC work programme and the process to formulate and implement NAPs
	
	GEF and United Nations agencies:
	• Launch of a global project to build capacity for LDCs to participate effectively in intergovernmental climate change processes. The initiative is funded under the GEF/the LDCF

[a] Available at <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/annguid_e.pdf>.

[b] FCCC/TP/2005/2.

[c] FCCC/TP/2005/3.

[d] FCCC/TP/2005/4.

[e] FCCC/TP/2005/5.

[f] Available at <https://www.thegef.org/gef/node/603>.

[g] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?such=j&symbol=FCCC/GEN/250%20E#beg>.

[h] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?such=j&symbol=FCCC/GEN/253%20E#beg>.

[i] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?rec=j&priref=6988#beg>.

[j] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?rec=j&priref=6989#beg>.

[k] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?such=j&symbol=FCCC/GEN/253%20E#beg>.

[l] Available at <https://www.thegef.org/gef/node/3215>.

[m] FCCC/TP/2011/7.

[n] Available at <https://www.thegef.org/gef/node/4433>.

[o] Available at <unfccc.int/7279>.

[p] Available at <unfccc.int/7279>.

[q] Available at <http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?such=j&symbol=FCCC/GEN/278%20E#beg>.